

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 019252

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DOD/ISA:MR. TIMBERLAKE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

INFO CINCSAC OFFUTT AFB

CO 95TH STRAT WNG GOOSE BAY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CA

SUBJECT: USAF GOOSE BAY EXCELSIOR PENSION PLAN

REF: OTTAWA 4774

FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE FOR USE OF EMBASSY IN RESPONDING TO
QUESTIONS RAISED BY WILLIAM ROMPKEY, M.P., IN HIS LETTER
QUOTED IN REFTEL:

1. REDUCTION OF CURRENT USAF MISSION AT GOOSE BAY AIR
BASE, NFLD WILL NOT AFFECT THE PENSIONS BEING PAID ANY
FORMER EMPLOYEE UNDER THE EXCELSIOR PENSION PLAN, ANY
PAID UP PENSIONS WITH RESPECT TO EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE LEFT
THE SERVICE OF USAF OR EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE REACHED NORMAL
RETIREMENT BEFORE THE DATE OF THE DISCONTINUANCE. A PAID
UP PENSION WILL BE GRANTED ANY ENROLLED EMPLOYEE IN THE
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PAGE 02 STATE 019252

SERVICE OF USAF ON THE DATE OF DISCONTINUANCE WHO HAS NOT

THEN REACHED HIS NORMAL RETIREMENT DATE AND THE PAID UP PENSION SHALL BE FOR THE AMOUNT PURCHASED BY THE PREMIUMS ACTUALLY PAID UNDER THE EXCELSIOR PENSION PLAN FOR EACH REGISTERED EMPLOYEE.

2. THE USAF CURRENTLY ADMINISTERS THE EXCELSIOR PENSION PLAN FOR US AIR FORCE EMPLOYEES AT GOOSE BAY AND US NAVY EMPLOYEES AT ARGENTIA. UPON REDUCTION OF USAF MISSION AT GOOSE BAY, THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE EXCELSIOR PENSION PLAN WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE US NAVY.

3. PREVIOUS USAF EMPLOYEES SEPARATED BY REDUCTION IN FORCE AND EMPLOYED BY THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT HAVE BEEN GIVEN CREDIT UNDER THE ELECTIVE SERVICE PROVISIONS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE SUPERANNUATION ACT. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE TRANSFER OF MONIES WAS MADE BY EXCELSIOR LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY TO THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

4. M.P. ROMPKEY SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT THE 880,000 DOLLARS TO WHICH HE REFERS IN LETTER ARE EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PAID UP PENSIONS FOR ITS EMPLOYEES RETAINED BY EXCELSIOR LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY AT THE TIME FORMER EMPLOYEES WITHDREW THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS AND FORFEITED ENTITLEMENT TO FUTURE PENSIONS. WITHDRAWAL OF THESE EXCESS MONIES BY THE AIR FORCE WILL HAVE NO EFFECT ON ENTITLEMENTS OF CURRENTLY REGISTERED EMPLOYEES.

5. FURTHER ASSURE M.P. ROMPKEY THAT THE EXCELSIOR PENSION PLAN IS REGISTERED WITH THE APPROPRIATE CANADIAN PENSION AUTHORITY AND MUST COMPLY WITH PRESCRIBED CANADIAN STANDARDS REGULATING PRIVATE PENSION PLANS.

6. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ABOVE INFORMATION TO EXTAFF SO THAT GOC MAY BE FULLY BRIEFED IN THIS ISSUE IN CASE OF PUBLIC OR PRESS INQUIRIES. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO PASS THIS INFO ALSO TO CONGEN ST. JOHN'S. KISSINGER

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